

**Chambers of District Judge Tucker L. Melançon**

U.S. Courthouse, 800 Lafayette Street, Lafayette, LA 70501  
Tel: (337) 593-5065 Fax: (337) 593-5076

**Tucker L. Melançon**

District Judge

Date of Birth: 1946

Education: LSU 1968 BS; Tulane 1973 JD

Began Service: 1994

Appointed By: President William J. Clinton

**Academic:** Member of Board of Directors and Secretary-Treasurer, Laco Premium Plan Incorporated (1985); Member, Board of Directors and Secretary-Treasurer, Southeast Central Louisiana Premium Finance Company (1987); Member, Advisory Board, Catalyst Old River Hydroelectric Partnership (1989-1992)

**Corporate:** Member, Board of Directors, Catalyst Vidalia Corporation (1992-1994)

**Legal Practice:** Knoll & Knoll (1973-1975); Sole Practitioner (1975-1983); Partner, Melançon & Rabalais (1984)

**Current Memberships:** American Inns of Court; American Judicature Society; Federal Bar Association; Louisiana Bar Association

**Staff**

Law Clerk **Frances Hays** ..... (337) 593-5065

E-mail: frances\_hays@lawd.uscourts.gov  
Education: LSU 1991 JD

Law Clerk **Steven Johnson** ..... (337) 593-5065

**Chambers of District Judge Robert Gillespie James**

201 Jackson Street, Monroe, LA 71201  
P.O. Drawer 3107, Monroe, LA 71210  
Tel: (318) 322-6230 Fax: (318) 323-9284

**Robert Gillespie James**

District Judge

Date of Birth: 1946

Education: Louisiana Tech 1968 BA; LSU 1971 JD

Began Service: October 31, 1998

Appointed By: President William J. Clinton

Political Affiliation: Democrat

**Judicial:** Judge (part time), Ruston City Court (1985-1998); Judge Pro Tempore, Supreme Court of Louisiana, Lincoln and Union Parishes (1993-1997)

**Legal Practice:** Associate, Barham, Wright, Barham & Dawkins (1971-1972); Partner, Barham, Wright, Barham & Dawkins (and successor firms) (1972-1985)

**Current Memberships:** American Bar Association; American Judges Association; Boy Scouts of America, Board of Directors Ouachita Valley; Louisiana Bar Association; Louisiana Bar Foundation, Fellow; Louisiana Parish Bar Association; Louisiana Tech University Foundation; Nature Conservancy, Member

**Staff**

Law Clerk **Kayla D. May** ..... (318) 322-6230

Education: Louisiana Tech 1995 MA;  
Tennessee 1998 JD

Secretary **Jennifer Floyd** ..... (318) 322-6230

**Chambers of District Judge Dee D. Drell**

233 Federal Building, 515 Murray Street, Alexandria, LA 71301  
P.O. Box 1071, Alexandria, LA 71309  
Tel: (318) 473-7420 Fax: (318) 473-7425  
E-mail: dee\_drell@lawd.uscourts.gov

**Dee D. Drell**

District Judge

Date of Birth: November 4, 1947

Education: Tulane 1968 BA, 1971 JD

Began Service: May 9, 2003

Appointed By: President George W. Bush

**Legal Practice:** Attorney, Gravel, Roy and Burnes (1975-1981); Member, Gold, Weems, Bruser, Sues & Rundell (1981-2003)

**Military Service:** Judge Advocate General, United States Army (1971-1975)

**Current Memberships:** American Bar Association; Alexandria Bar Association; American Judicature Society; Louisiana Bar Association; Crossroads-American Inns of Court

**Staff**

Permanent Law Clerk **Carolyn Smilie** ..... (318) 473-7420

E-mail: carolyn\_smilie@lawd.uscourts.gov  
Education: LSU 1986 BS, 1989 JD

Law Clerk **Sarah Stark** ..... (318) 473-7420

E-mail: zachary\_stump@lawd.uscourts.gov  
Education: Dallas 2001 BA;  
Southern Methodist 2005 JD

Judicial Assistant **Mable Brown** ..... (318) 473-7420

E-mail: mable\_brown@lawd.uscourts.gov

**Chambers of District Judge S. Maurice Hicks Jr.**

300 Fannin Street, Suite 5101, Shreveport, LA 71101-3083  
Tel: (318) 676-3055 Fax: (318) 676-3059  
E-mail: maury\_hicks@lawd.uscourts.gov

**S. Maurice Hicks, Jr.**

District Judge

Date of Birth: December 5, 1952

Education: Texas Christian 1974 BA; LSU 1977 JD

Began Service: June 12, 2003

Appointed By: President George W. Bush

Political Affiliation: Republican

**Current Memberships:** Louisiana Bar Association; Shreveport Bar Association

**Staff**

Law Clerk **Allison Duncan** ..... (318) 676-3055

E-mail: Allison\_Duncan@lawd.uscourts.gov  
Education: LSU 2001 JD

Law Clerk **Whitney Howell** ..... (318) 676-3055

E-mail: whitney\_howell@lawd.uscourts.gov

Judicial Assistant **Betty Gunter** ..... (318) 676-3055

E-mail: Betty\_Gunter@lawd.uscourts.gov

**Chambers of District Judge Patricia Head Minaldi**

611 Broad Street, Lake Charles, LA 70601  
Tel: (337) 437-3880 Fax: (337) 437-3969

**Patricia Head Minaldi**

District Judge

Date of Birth: September 12, 1958

Education: Wesleyan U 1980 BA; Tulane 1983 JD

Began Service: June 16, 2003

Appointed By: President George W. Bush

Political Affiliation: Republican

**Current Memberships:** Louisiana Bar Association; Southwest Louisiana Bar Association

**Chambers of District Judge Patricia Head Minaldi continued****Staff**

Career Law Clerk **Nanette Cagney** ..... (337) 437-3880

E-mail: nanette\_cagney@lawd.uscourts.gov  
Education: Tulane 1982 JD

Law Clerk **Adam Brown** ..... (337) 487-3880

E-mail: adam\_brown@lawd.uscourts.gov

**Chambers of Senior Judge Tom Stagg**

4100 U.S. Courthouse, 300 Fannin Street, Shreveport, LA 71101-3091  
Tel: (318) 676-3260 Fax: (318) 676-3258

**Tom Stagg**

Senior Judge

Date of Birth: 1923

Education: LSU 1943 BA, 1949 JD

Began Service: 1974

Appointed By: President Richard M. Nixon

**Legal Practice:** Hargrove, Guyton, Van Hook & Hargrove (1949-1954); Senior Partner, Stagg, Cady & Beard (1958-1974)

**Military Service:** United States Army (1943-1946)

**Current Memberships:** American Bar Association; Louisiana Bar Association; Shreveport Bar Association

**Staff**

Permanent Law Clerk **Patricia Cripps** ..... (318) 676-3260

E-mail: tricia\_vanhook@lawd.uscourts.gov  
Education: LSU 1997 JD

Law Clerk **Robin Samson** ..... (318) 676-3260

E-mail: robin\_samson@lawd.uscourts.gov  
Education: Mississippi 2005 JD

Judicial Assistant **Ruth Elkins** ..... (318) 676-3260

E-mail: ruth\_elkins@lawd.uscourts.gov

**Chambers of Senior Judge F. A. Little, Jr.**

Federal Building, 515 Murray Street, Alexandria, LA 71301  
P.O. Box 1031, Alexandria, LA 71309-1031  
Tel: (318) 473-7375 Fax: (318) 473-7336

**F. A. Little, Jr.**

Senior Judge

Date of Birth: 1936

Education: Tulane 1958 BA, 1961 JD

Began Service: December 4, 1984

Appointed By: President Ronald Reagan

Political Affiliation: Republican

**Judicial:** Chief Judge, United States District Court for the Western District of Louisiana (1997-2002)

**Legal Practice:** Chaffe, McCall, Phillips, Toler & Sarpy (1961-1965); Associate, Gold, Little, Simon, Weems & Bruser, Ltd. (1965-1969); President, Gold, Little, Simon, Weems & Bruser, Ltd. (1969-1984)

**Current Memberships:** Alexandria Bar Association; American Bar Foundation; American College of Trust and Estate Counsel; Judicial Conference Committee on Financial Disclosure; Louisiana Bar Association; Louisiana Bar Foundation; Louisiana State Law Institute

**Staff**

Law Clerk **William Edmonson** ..... (318) 473-7375

Education: New York Law 2005 JD

Law Clerk **Ashok Pinto** ..... (318) 473-7375

Education: Illinois 2003 JD

Secretary **Judy Tinsley** ..... (318) 473-7375

E-mail: judy\_tinsley@lawd.uscourts.gov

**Chambers of Senior Judge Donald E. Walter**

4200 U.S. Courthouse, 300 Fannin Street, Shreveport, LA 71101  
Tel: (318) 676-3175 Fax: (318) 676-3179  
E-mail: donald\_walter@lawd.uscourts.gov

**Donald E. Walter**

Senior Judge

Date of Birth: 1936

Education: LSU 1961 BA, 1964 JD

Began Service: July 15, 1985

Appointed By: President George W. Bush

**Academic:** Adjunct Professor, Centenary College

**Government:** United States Attorney, Western District of Louisiana, Department of Justice (1969-1977)

**Legal Practice:** Cavanaugh, Brame, Holt & Woodley (1964-1966); Holt & Woodley (1966-1969); Hargrove, Guyton, Ramey & Barlow (1978-1985)

**Military Service:** United States Army (1957-1958)

**Staff**

Law Clerk **Reg Hargrove** ..... (318) 676-3175

Law Clerk **Elizabeth Mendell-Carmody** ..... (318) 676-3175

Education: LSU JD

Judicial Assistant **Deborah Berry** ..... (318) 676-3175

Judicial Assistant **Jill Adcock Kennedy** ..... (318) 676-3175

**Chambers of Senior Judge James T. Trimble, Jr.**

237 Edwin F. Hunter Jr. Federal Building, 611 Broad Street,  
Lake Charles, LA 70601  
Tel: (337) 437-3884 Fax: (337) 437-3899

**James T. Trimble, Jr.**

Senior Judge

Date of Birth: 1932

Education: LSU 1955 BA, 1956 JD

Began Service: September 12, 1991

Appointed By: President George H.W. Bush

Political Affiliation: Republican

**Judicial:** Magistrate Judge, United States District Court for the Western District of Louisiana (1986-1991); District Judge, United States District Court for the Western District of Louisiana (1991-2002)

**Legal Practice:** Gist, Murchison, & Gist (1959-1978); Trimble, Percy, Smith, Wilson, Foote, Walker & Honeycutt (1979-1986)

**Military Service:** United States Air Force (1956-1959)

**Current Memberships:** Federal Judges Association; Louisiana Bar Association; Louisiana Bar Foundation; Southwest Louisiana Bar Association

**Staff**

Law Clerk **Toni Petrofes** ..... (337) 437-3884

Education: LSU 1999 JD

Judicial Assistant **Rebecca Humphrey** ..... (337) 437-3884